

Cline, George A.

Jan-Mar 1914



336
Faculty Residence,
Jan. 7th, 1914.

Dr. R. A. Falconer;
University of Toronto.

Dear Mr. President:

The members of the Junior Faculty Residence desire to put one or two facts before you on the question which has been raised regarding the use of alcohol in the house. They understand from Mr. Russell that certain charges have been made against him which they feel involve to some extent the general reputation of the Residence and its members. They wish it to be understood that the nature of the information which they have received leaves them somewhat in the dark as to the statements which may have come to you and the view you may take of the affair; but they wish at the same time to relieve Mr. Russell of any unfair share of responsibility which their evidence might help to lessen and also to clear away any misapprehension which may exist as to the life of the house.



They would like to call your attention to the fact that there has been hitherto no rule against the use of alcohol in the house and that during term-time alcohol has on no occasion been brought into the common room, and to the knowledge of the members only once into the house. Occasionally, as was natural, there has been some noisy fun in the Residence in which Mr. Russell took but a small part, but this existed simply between the members of the house and no objection to it has been raised. Moreover, the life of the house has been more than usually pleasant and marked by a spirit of comradeship.

During the Christmas vacation there has naturally been rather more freedom and high spirits, and alcohol has been used several times in the common room by those who were accustomed to it in their own homes and saw no objection to its introduction. On none of these occasions were students present, nor have undergraduates at any time been permitted to see indications of the use of alcohol in the house; and no



objection has been made to those concerned by any member of the house. It may also be stated that there was no intention of continuing such practices after the close of the vacation.

At a general meeting of the house last night a resolution was passed forbidding both the use of alcohol in the common room and its public delivery at the house. The only reason that this action was not taken earlier was the fact that many members were absent during the Christmas vacation, and it was therefore impossible to call a meeting together.

This letter has been considered at a full meeting of the house and has been unanimously approved.

Yours very truly,
George A. Cline,
Secy.

236

January 8th, 1914

G. A. Cline, Esq.,

Faculty Residence, 85 St. George Street,
Toronto.

Dear Mr. Cline:

I have your letter of January 7th which you have written on behalf of the residents. I am glad to be informed of the view that the residents take as to the recent events which were reported to me as having occurred within the Residence, and particularly that the residents speak with such good-will on Mr. Russell's behalf.

I may say that the information on which I acted was not directly given to me by any one resident of the house. It must be a great satisfaction to Mr. Russell, as it is to me, that he has during his short stay secured the good-will of those who were with him in the housing.

I am glad to know of the action that you have taken with regard to the introduction of alcohol to the residence. It meets with my approval, and I hope that your action will forestall any criticism that might in the future be raised from without.

Yours sincerely,

President.



297
85 St. George St.

May 11th, 1913

R. A. Falconer, Esq, C.C.D.

President, University of Toronto.

Dear Mr. President,

At a meeting of the members of the Staff Residence I was directed to draw your attention to one or two matters in connection with the house.

The heating plant was found to be decidedly unsatisfactory last winter and in our opinion, the furnace should be replaced by a larger one. The appearance of the house, both exterior and interior has caused unfavorable comment, due largely, I think to the fact that the windows have not been washed during the session and that the curtains are of a dingy and undesirable color. The unsatisfactory housekeeping may be due to the fact that only one



servant has been employed and, in the opinion of the house, a higher standard of cleanliness should be maintained even at the expense of additional servants. The carpet in the common room has become worn, faded and very dirty and should be replaced, or at least thoroughly cleaned.

We should hesitate to trouble you with these matters, did we not feel that the reforms mentioned are essential to our happiness and comfort next term.

Yours respectfully,
George A. Clive

May 14th, 1914

G. A. Cline, Esq.,

85 St. George Street,

Toronto.

Dear Mr. Cline:

I have your letter on behalf of the members of the staff who are residing in 85 St. George Street drawing attention of conditions in the house which in your judgment should be improved in order that the comfort of the Residence may be increased.

Yours very sincerely,

President.